## Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 23-46 are pending in the application, with claims 23, 26, 33, and 42 being the independent claims. Claims 1-22 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 23-46 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

,

## Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Thomas C. Fiala

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 43,610

Date: 11/17/03

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3934

(202) 371-2600

::ODMA\MHODMA\SKGF\_DC1;195217;1

SKGF Rev. 4/22/03 mac; 7/15/03 svb